Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 03864 081021Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /103 W
----------111510 090544Z /17
R 080954Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7539
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 03864

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, YS, IN
SUBJECT: INDIAN AND YEMENI DEFENSE MINISTERS
VISIT THE GDR.

1. SUMMARY: IN BACK-TO-BACK VISITS THE DEFENSE MINISTERS
OF INDIA AND THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF YEMEN HAVE PAID OFFICIAL VISITS TO THE GDR FOR DIS-
CUSSIONS WITH GDR DEFENSE AND MILITARY OFFICIALS AND
FOR MEETINGS WITH THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP. PRESS REPORTS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 03864 081021Z

HERE DO NOT REVEAL ANY SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENTS WHICH MAY
HAVE BEEN REACHED DURING THE COURSE OF THESE VISITS.
END SUMMARY.

2. INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER JAGJIVAN RAM VISITED THE GDR
MAY 26 THROUGH MAY 29 AS GUEST OF MINISTER OF DEFENSE
HEINZ HOFFMANN. DURING HIS VISIT HE MET WITH ERICH

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

HONECKER TO WHOM HE PRESENTED THE GREETINGS OF INDIAN PRESIDENT REDDY. THE BULK OF THE VISIT WAS TAKEN UP WITH DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR DEFENSE AND MILITARY OFFICIALS, VISITS TO MILITARY UNITS AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES (PARTICULARLY THE KARL ZEISS JENA WORKS) AND CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES. PRESS REPORTING ON THE VISIT STRESSED THE FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE CHARACTER OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BUT DID NOT REVEAL ANY SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENTS WHICH MAY HAVE RESULTED FROM THE VISIT. AMONGST VARIOUS PUBLIC STATEMENTS DURING THE VISIT IT IS REPORTED THAT RAM PRAISED THE NATIONAL VOLKSARMEE FOR ITS DEFENSE OF ITS HOME LAND AND FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE SECURING OF PEACE.

3. A YEMENI DELEGATION LEAD BY DEFENSE MINISTER ALI AHMED NASSER ANTAR ARRIVED JUST AS RAM WAS DEPARTING MAY 29. THIS VISIT ALSO INCLUDED A RECEPTION BY HONECKER AND EXTENSIVE AND WELL PUBLICIZED DISCUSSIONS WITH HOFFMANN AND OTHER GDR DEFENSE AND MILITARY OFFICIALS. BASED ON EAST GERMAN PRESS REPORTS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE YEMENI DELEGATION ENGAGED IN MORE EXTENSIVE VISITING OF MILITARY UNITS AND CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES THAN WAS THE CASE OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE YEMENIS PARTICIPATED IN A JOINT SOVIET-YEMENI-EAST GERMAN CEREMONY AT THE SOVIET WAR MEMORIAL IN BERLIN-TREPTOW. THE YEMENI DELEGATION ALSO MET WITH MINISTER OF STATE SECURITY ERICH MIELKE, PRESUMABLY FOR DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING GDR ASSISTANCE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BERLIN 03864 081021Z

YEMEN IN THE POLICE AND INTERNAL SECURITY FIELD. PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF THE YEMENI GROUP WERE MORE SUPPORTIVE OF THE GDR THAN THE INDIAN IN SUCH MATTERS AS EUROPEAN SECURITY, ANTI-IMPERIALISM, AND SOLIDARITY WITH NATIONAL LIBERATION FORCES. HOWEVER, PUBLIC REPORTS OF THIS VISIT ALSO REVEAL NO NEW SUBSTANTIVE UNDERTAKINGS.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF PUBLISHED AGREEMENTS CONCERNING INCREASED GDR MILITARY ACTIVITY WITH INDIA AND YEMEN, THESE TWO VISITS AND THE PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THEM MAY REFLECT A CONTINUING EFFORT BY GDR AUTHORITIES TO MAINTAIN AND PERHAPS EXPAND THE SCOPE OF GDR MILITARY COOPERATION AND CONTACTS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES IN THE THIRD WORLD. THE GDR IS ALREADY HEAVILY ENGAGED IN YEMEN IN MILITARY AND INTERNAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE. HOFFMANN MADE SEVERAL VISITS TO ADEN IN 1977 AND, AT LEAST AS A PROTOCOLARLY MATTER, ANTAR'S APPEARANCE IN EAST BERLIN MUST BE CONSIDERED A RETURN VISIT. HOFFMANN VISITED INDIA IN 1975. AT THAT TIME THERE WAS SPECULATION IN THE WEST GERMAN PRESS THAT THE GDR MIGHT BECOME AN ARMS SUPPLIER TO INDIA ALTHOUGH THIS WAS DISCOUNTED BY THE THEN AMBASSADOR TO EAST BERLIN. END COMMENT. BOLEN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BERLIN03864
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780240-1074
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780683/aaaactif.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7a3c408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2444326
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN AND YEMENI DEFENSE MINISTERS VISIT THE GDR.
TAGS: PEPR, YS, IN, GC, (RAM, JAGJIVAN), (ANTAR, ALI AHMED NASSER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7a3c408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014